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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 7, 2010, at 12:30 p.m.

Senate

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2010

The Senate met at 8:15 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable MARK BEGICH, a Senator from the State of Alaska.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal Lord God, source of all our joys and all our abundance, as we convene for this rare Saturday session, we acknowledge that no problem is too difficult for You. Lord, we bring You our needs and difficulties, asking You to take over the things that are more than we can handle.

Give the Members of this body the patience to live bravely with life's challenges, knowing that You are the author and finisher of their faith. Use our lawmakers this day to bring healing where there is pain, hope where there is despair, and peace where there is conflict. May they serve You with pure, exemplary lives and thereby give those whom they lead an ideal to follow.

We pray in Your Holy Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable MARK BEGICH led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication

to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. INOUE).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, December 4, 2010.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable MARK BEGICH, a Senator from the State of Alaska, to perform the duties of the Chair.

DANIEL K. INOUE,
President pro tempore.

Mr. BEGICH thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following any leader remarks, the Senate will resume consideration of the House message to H.R. 4853, which is the legislative vehicle for the tax cut extensions. Under a time agreement, there is up to 2 hours of debate equally divided prior to a rollcall vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to concur with the Baucus amendment. If cloture is not invoked on the Baucus amendment, the Senate will proceed to a cloture vote on the Schumer amendment. Senators should expect the first cloture vote to occur at 10:30 this morning. Senator SCHUMER will control the

time on his amendment. Senator BAUCUS will control the time on his amendment. They will each have 30 minutes.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 4006

Mr. REID. Mr. President, S. 4006 is at the desk and due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 4006) to provide for the use of unobligated discretionary stimulus dollars to address AIDS Drug Assistance Program waiting lists and other cost containment measures impacting State ADAP programs.

Mr. REID. I object to any further proceeding with respect to this bill.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard.

The bill will be placed on the calendar.

TAX CUTS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there is a recurring gag in the comic strip "Peanuts" with which we are all familiar. Charlie Brown is getting ready to kick a field goal. Lucy is holding the ball while Charlie runs up to the ball. At the last second, Lucy pulls the ball away. Charlie Brown flies into the air, comes crashing back down, and falls flat on his back. We have all seen this time and time again. But what makes this gag funny is the same thing that made it famous. It wasn't so much that Lucy was tricking Charlie Brown; it was that it kept happening over and over. Charlie Brown kept being tricked.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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